

Honoring
SONDRA MERSON
On Her Retirement

WHEREAS, *Sondra Merson, Computer Operations Supervisor in Headquarters' Technology Services Division, retired on August 15, 2003, after more than thirty-six years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and*

WHEREAS, *Sondra began her career with the State of California in 1966 as a Key Data Operator Trainee at the Department of Motor Vehicles; and*

WHEREAS, *as a result of diligent work and demonstrated ability, she advanced to positions of increasing responsibility, earning appointments to the positions of Key Data Operator and Key Data Supervisor I; and*

WHEREAS, *after ably serving the Department of Motor Vehicles and completing a brief assignment at the Department of Transportation, Sondra transferred to the State Board of Equalization's Technology Services Division on June 16, 1975, as a Key Data Supervisor I, later advancing to Information Systems Technician, Computer Operator, and Senior Computer Operator; and*

WHEREAS, *in recognition of her outstanding leadership skills and proven professionalism, Sondra was appointed to the position of Computer Operations Supervisor on October 31, 1991; and*

WHEREAS, *throughout her many years of service, Sondra has served the people of this state with fairness and dedication: Therefore be it*

RESOLVED, *that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Sondra Merson our sincere and grateful appreciation for her dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on her well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to her and her family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.*

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.

Honoring
DAVID J. SLECHTA

On His Retirement

***WHEREAS**, David J. Slechta, Supervising Tax Auditor III in the West Covina District Office, will retire on November 18, 2003, after more than thirty-seven years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and*

***WHEREAS**, David began his career with the Board of Equalization on February 7, 1966, ably served his country for two years, including a tour of duty in Vietnam, and was reinstated with the Board of Equalization on July 8, 1968; and*

***WHEREAS**, as a result of diligent work and demonstrated ability, he advanced to positions of increasing responsibility, first earning appointment to the position of Tax Auditor II in February 1969; and*

***WHEREAS**, David was promoted to Tax Auditor III in October 1971 in the Excise Tax Unit of the Pasadena District Office, transferred to the Hollywood District Office in July 1972 when the Excise Tax Unit was moved, and was later promoted to the position of Supervising Tax Auditor I in March 1976; and*

***WHEREAS**, he was promoted to Supervising Tax Auditor II in January 1984 and managed the superior crew in the Hollywood District Office, which audited some of the largest companies in the world, and later advanced to District Principal Auditor in the West Los Angeles District Office to gain experience in managing a district audit program; and*

***WHEREAS**, David was awarded the 1988 Governor's Safety Award as Co-Chair of the Fourth District Earthquake Preparedness Committee, expending considerable personal time and effort preparing and implementing Earthquake Preparedness Plans for the Fourth Equalization District; and*

***WHEREAS**, David was promoted to Supervising Tax Auditor III in August 1993 where he managed an even larger district auditor program, participated in the consolidation of the district and Covina Branch Office which became the Industry District Office in December 1994, and helped organize the move of the Industry District Office to its new facility in West Covina in July 2000; and*

***WHEREAS**, throughout his many years of service, David has served the people of this state with fairness and dedication: Therefore be it*

***RESOLVED**, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to David J. Slechta our sincere and grateful appreciation for his dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on his well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to him and his family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.*

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.

Honoring
MARILYN C. MATISOHN

On Her Retirement

WHEREAS, Marilyn C. Matisohn, Tax Technician III in the West Covina District Office, will retire on September 30, 2003, after twenty-one years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn began her career with the Board of Equalization on June 18, 1973, as a Clerk Typist I in the Pasadena Office; and

WHEREAS, as a result of diligent work and demonstrated ability, she advanced to positions of increasing responsibility, first earning appointment to the position of Clerk Typist II in July 1974, promoting to Office Technician in May 1979, and later receiving a class change to Program Technician II in April 1985; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her proven technical ability and professionalism, Marilyn was promoted to the current position of Tax Technician III in April 1986; and

WHEREAS, after ably serving in the Pasadena office until it closed in August 1981, she moved to the Arcadia District Office, providing service to the public until it was relocated to the City of Industry in December 1994 and later to West Covina in July 2000; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of service, Marilyn has served the people of this state with fairness and dedication: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Marilyn C. Matisohn our sincere and grateful appreciation for dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on her well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to her and her family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.

Honoring
SYDNIE VAN CLEAVE

On Her Retirement

WHEREAS, Sydnie Van Cleave, Business Taxes Specialist I in the San Jose District Office, retired on September 4, 2003, after thirty-one years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, Sydnie began her career with the state in July 1972 as an Auditor I and, through diligent effort and dedication to the Board, advanced through the ranks to this present position; and

WHEREAS, Sydnie has performed her duties throughout her service to the Board in a conscientious and responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, Sydnie has consistently responded with ingenuity, imagination, and foresight to the duties and responsibilities given her, fulfilling them with outstanding accuracy and competency; and

WHEREAS, Sydnie has set an example of dedication to principle which has been an inspiration to her fellow employees; and

WHEREAS, Sydnie, in all her endeavors, has reflected great credit upon the Board and the Sales and Use Tax Department: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Sydnie Van Cleave our sincere and grateful appreciation for her dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on her well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to her and her family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.

Honoring
BRUCE WORMELL
On His Retirement

WHEREAS, Bruce Wormell, Staff Information Systems Analyst in the San Francisco District Office retired on September 9, 2003, after more than thirty-four years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, Bruce began his career with the Board of Equalization on July 1, 1969, as an Auditor I and, through diligent effort and dedication to the Board, advanced through the ranks to this present position; and

WHEREAS, Bruce has performed his duties throughout his service to the Board in a conscientious and responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, Bruce has consistently responded with ingenuity, imagination, and foresight to the duties and responsibilities given him, fulfilling them with outstanding accuracy and competency; and

WHEREAS, Bruce has set an example of dedication to principle which has been an inspiration to his fellow employees; and

WHEREAS, Bruce, in all his endeavors, has reflected great credit upon the Board of Equalization and the Department of Sales and Use Tax: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Bruce Wormell our sincere and grateful appreciation for his dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on his well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to him and his family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.

Honoring
BETTY TAYLOR
On Her Retirement

WHEREAS, Betty Taylor, Assistant Information Systems Analyst in the Headquarters Change Management Unit, Technology Services Division, will retire on September 29, 2003, after twenty-two years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, Betty began her career with the state at the Franchise Tax Board on February 23, 1981, as a Key Data Operator and then worked as a Computer Operator at the Department of Motor Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Betty began working for the Board of Equalization as a Computer Operator in 1984 and, as a result of diligent work and demonstrated ability, advanced to positions of increasing responsibility, earning her way up to Assistant Information Systems Analyst in the Change Management Unit; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of service, Betty has served the people of this state with fairness and dedication: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Betty Taylor our sincere and grateful appreciation for her dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on her well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to her and her family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.

Honoring
OLIVIA LOPEZ PATNO

On Her Retirement

WHEREAS, Olivia Lopez Patno, Business Taxes Compliance Specialist in Headquarters Special Procedures Section, will retire on November 16, 2003, after thirty-six years of outstanding and meritorious service to the State of California and the Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, Olivia began her career with the state on August 27, 1966, in the Division of Highways (now CalTrans) in San Bernardino, working as a Stenographer I and soon promoting to Stenographer II for the Right-of-Way and Escrow Sections after graduating from college; and

WHEREAS, from March 18, 1971, to January 26, 1972, she worked as a Teletype Operator for the Merced County Schools and on February 1, 1972, was reinstated with the Division of Highways, Escrow Department until March 2, 1973, when she went to South Carolina until 1975; and

WHEREAS, from 1975 to 1980, Olivia was reinstated with the state at the Employment Development Department in San Bernardino as Senior Stenographer, then promoted to Tax Representative I from 1980 to 1984, and promoted to Tax Representative II for the State Board of Equalization in San Bernardino; and

WHEREAS, from 1984 to 1987, she worked in the Occasional Sales Section (now Consumer Use Tax), in Sacramento, in 1988 transferred to the Collection Unit (now Special Procedures Section), and on October 1, 2001, was promoted to Business Taxes Compliance Specialist; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of service, Olivia has served the people of this state with fairness and dedication: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Olivia Lopez Patno our sincere and grateful appreciation for her dedicated service to the State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on her well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to her and her family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of September 2003, by the State Board of Equalization.